



CITY OF
HAYWARD
HEART OF THE BAY

Policy Direction on Use of Artificial Turf

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Use of Artificial Turf

- Lawns require lots of water
- Property owners are looking for alternatives
- City has no formal policy on artificial turf



Alternatives to Lawn

- Native, water-efficient landscaping
- Hardscape (bricks, pavers, etc.)
- Artificial turf



Artificial Turf Pros & Cons

Pros

- Reduced water use (but still requires occasional cleaning)
- No fertilizer use
- No mowing and low maintenance
- Provides look of a lawn without regular watering and maintenance



Artificial Turf Pros & Cons

Cons

- Contributes to heat island effect
- Does not store carbon
- Has limited lifespan
- Not biodegradable
- No habitat for flora and fauna in soil
- Needs occasional cleaning
- Requires soil compaction for installation
- May have negative health impacts
- Dog waste is very difficult to clean up



Turf Removal Program

Lawn Be Gone! Rebate Program

- Installation of artificial turf is not eligible for a rebate
- Requires water-efficient plants



BAWSCA
Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency



Athletic Playfields

- Artificial Turf has benefits for public sports fields
- Staff may recommend exemptions if City were to adopt a policy



Use of Artificial Turf

Options:

1. Educate property owners and contractors regarding the pros and cons related to artificial turf.
2. Prepare a fact sheet discouraging use of artificial turf.
3. Do additional research to evaluate whether a prohibition of artificial turf should be incorporated into the Municipal Code.



Questions

Discussion

